VOL. 78

NIRVANA

Play 8 Songs with Tab and Sound-alike CD Tracks

- All Apologies
- Come as You Are
- Dumb
- Heart Shaped Box
- In Bloom
- Lithium
- Rape Me
- Smells Like Teen Spirit

GUITAR PLAY-ALONG

NIRVANA

Photo: Chris Cuffaro, courtesy of The David Geffen Company

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TIAR

-ALONG

NIRVANA

CONTENTS

Guitar Notation Legend

THE MUSICAL STAFF shows pitches and rhythms and is divided by bar lines into measures. Pitches are named after the first seven letters of the alphabet.

TABLATURE graphically represents the guitar fingerboard. Each horizontal line represents a string, and each number represents a fret.

Notes:

Strings:

4th string, 2nd fret — 1st & 2nd strings open, played together — open D chord

HALF-STEP BEND: Strike the note and bend up 1/2 step.

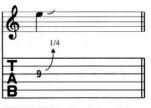
WHOLE-STEP BEND: Strike the note and bend up one step.

GRACE NOTE BEND: Strike the note and bend up as indicated. The first note does not take up any time.

SLIGHT (MICROTONE) BEND: Strike the note and bend up 1/4 step.

BEND AND RELEASE: Strike the note and bend up as indicated, then release back to the original note. Only the first note is struck.

PRE-BEND: Bend the note as indicated, then strike it.

VIBRATO: The string is vibrated by rapidly bending and releasing the note with the fretting hand.

PALM MUTING: The note is partially muted by the pick hand lightly touching the string(s) just before the bridge.

HAMMER-ON: Strike the first (lower) note with one finger, then sound the higher note (on the same string) with another finger by fretting it without picking.

PULL-OFF: Place both fingers on the notes to be sounded. Strike the first note and without picking, pull the finger off to sound the second (lower) note.

LEGATO SLIDE: Strike the first note and then slide the same fret-hand finger up or down to the second note. The second note is not struck.

SHIFT SLIDE: Same as legato slide, except the second note is struck.

TRILL: Very rapidly alternate between the notes indicated by continuously hammering on and pulling off.

TAPPING: Hammer ("tap") the fret indicated with the pick-hand index or middle finger and pull off to the note fretted by the fret hand.

NATURAL HARMONIC: Strike the note while the fret-hand lightly touches the string directly over the fret indicated.

PINCH HARMONIC: The note is fretted normally and a harmonic is produced by adding the edge of the thumb or the tip of the index finger of the pick hand to the normal pick attack.

TREMOLO PICKING: The note is picked as rapidly and continuously as possible.

VIBRATO BAR DIVE AND RETURN: The pitch of the note or chord is dropped a specified number of steps (in rhythm) then returned to the original pitch.

VIBRATO BAR SCOOP: Depress the bar just before striking the note, then quickly release the bar.

VIBRATO BAR DIP: Strike the note and then immediately drop a specified number of steps, then release back to the original pitch.

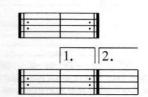
Additional Musical Definitions

(accent) • Accentuate note (play it louder)

(staccato) • Play the note short

D.S. al Coda • Go back to the sign (𝄋), then play until the measure marked ***"To Coda"***, then skip to the section labelled ***"Coda."***

D.C. al Fine • Go back to the beginning of the song and play until the measure marked ***"Fine"*** (end).

Fill • Label used to identify a brief melodic figure which is to be inserted into the arrangement.

N.C. • No Chord

• Repeat measures between signs.

• When a repeated section has different endings, play the first ending only the first time and the second ending only the second time.

All Apologies

Words and Music by Kurt Cobain

Drop D tuning, down 1/2 step:
(low to high) D♭-A♭-D♭-G♭-B♭-E♭

Intro

Moderately ♩ = 112

Verse

N.C.(D)

1. What else should I be? All apologies.

What else should I say?
Ev - 'ry - one is gay.
What else could I write?
I don't have the right.
What else should I be?
All a - pol - o - gies.
f
w/ dist.

Bridge
G5
In the sun, in the sun I feel as one.
In the sun, in the sun... (I'm)
A5
D5
mar - ried, bur - ied.
Verse
N.C.(D)
2. I wish I was like you, eas - i - ly a - mused.
mf
dist. off

Find my nest of salt.
Ev - 'ry - thing is my fault.
I'll take all the blame,
a - qua sea - foam shame.
Sun-burn, (with) freez - er - burn.
Chok - ing on the ash -

Bridge
G5
- es of her en - e - my.
In the sun,
in the sun
I feel as one.
In the sun,
in the sun...
A5
Mar - ried,
mar - ried,
mar - ried,
bur - ied,
yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.
w/ dist.
P.H.

Interlude
N.C.(D)
Outro
N.C.(D)
All a - lone is all we all are.
All a - lone is all we all are.
All a - lone is all we all are.
All a - lone is all we all are.

All a - lone is all we all are. All a - lone is all
9 10 9 10/12 12 10 9
0
9 10 9 10/12 12 10 9
0
0
*w/ random fdbk., next 22 meas.
we all are. All a - lone is all we all are.
(0) 0
All a - lone is all we all are. All a - lone is all
0
we all are. All a - lone is all we all are.
(0)
0

All a - lone is all we all are. All a - lone is all
we all are. All a - lone is all we all are.
All a - lone is all we all are. All a - lone is all
we all are. All a - lone is all we all are.
dim.
Gtr. tacet
All a - lone is all we all are. All a - lone is all we all are.

Come as You Are

Words and Music by Kurt Cobain

Tune down one step:
(low to high) D-G-C-F-A-D

E F F#m F E F
as a friend, as an old en - e - my.
F#m F E F F#m F
Take your time, hur - ry up, the choice is yours,
E F F#m F E F
don't be late. Take a rest as a friend,
F#m F E
as an old mem - o - ry,

Pre-Chorus
F#sus4
A
ah.
Mem - o - ry,
F#sus4
1.
A
2.
A
E
F
ah.
Mem - o - ry,
Verse
F#m
F
E
F
F#m
F
2. Come doused in mud, soaked in bleach, as I want
E
F
F#m
F
E
F
you to be; as a trend, as a friend,

F♯m
F
E
as an old mem - o - ry,
Pre-Chorus
F♯sus4
A
ah. Mem - o - ry,
F♯sus4
1.
A
2.
A5
ah. Mem - o - ry,
Chorus
Bsus4
D
Bsus4
And I swear that I don't have a gun.
w/ dist.

D
Bsus4
D
No, I don't ___ have a gun. ___
No, I don't ___
Bsus4
D
E
F
Interlude
F♯m
F
___ have a gun. ___
E
F
F♯m
F
E
F
w/ heavy dist.
& delay
Guitar Solo
F♯m
F
E
F
F♯m
F
E
F

F♯m F E F F♯m F E F
Play 3 times
Pre-Chorus
F♯sus4 A
...ry, ah. Mem - o - ry,
mf
w/ clean tone & flanger
F♯sus4 A
ah. Mem - o - ry,
F♯sus4 A
ah. Mem - o - ry,

F#sus4
A5
ah.
2 X 4 4 4 4 2 2 2 4 4 2 4 4 0 0 2 2 0
Chorus
Bsus4
D
Bsus4
And I swear that I don't have a gun.
D
B5
D5
No, I don't have a gun.
No, I don't
B5
D5
B5
have a gun.
No, I don't have a gun.

D5
B5
D5
E
F
No, I don't have a gun.
Outro
F#m
Mem - o - ry,
ah.
Mem - o - ry,
ah.

Dumb

Words and Music by Kurt Cobain

Tune down 1/2 step:
(low to high) E♭-A♭-D♭-G♭-B♭-E♭

Verse

Moderately ♩ = 114

Chorus
Gsus4
C
E5
G
may - be just (1., 3.) hap - py.
2. See additional lyrics
Think I'm just
P.M.
P.M.
hap - py.
Think I'm just
hap - py.
To Coda
Think I'm just
hap - py.
Bridge
B
C
Skin the sun,
fall a - sleep.

B
C
B
Wish a - way,
soul is cheap.
Les - son learned,
D.C. al Coda
C
B
C
wish me luck.
Soothe the burn,
wake me up.
Coda
Outro
E5
A5
G
C5
I think I'm dumb.
I think I'm dumb.
P.M.
E5
A5
G
C5
I think I'm dumb.
I think I'm dumb.
P.M.

Additional Lyrics

2. My heart is broke, and I have some glue.
Help me inhale, mend it with you.
We'll float around, hang out on clouds.
Then we'll come down,

Chorus 2. Have a hangover.
And have a hangover.
Have a hangover.
Have a hangover.

In Bloom

Words and Music by Kurt Cobain

Weath - er chang - es moods.
B♭ G♭ E♭ B A
Spring is here a - gain.
mf
w/ clean tone
B♭ G♭ E♭ B5 D5
Re - pro - duc - tive glands. He's
f
w/ dist.
Chorus
B♭5 G5 B♭5 G5
the one who likes all our pret - ty songs and he

B♭5
G5
likes to sing a - long and he likes to shoot his gun, but he
C
E♭
don't know what it means, don't know what it means, and I say
he's the one who likes all our pret - ty songs and he
likes to sing a - long and he likes to shoot his gun, but he

To Coda
C
E♭
C
E♭
don't know what it means, _
don't know what it means, _ and I ___ say,
B♭5
G5
F5
A♭5
"Yeah." ______
Mm.
B♭5
G5
F5
A♭5
Ooh.
Mm. ______
Guitar Solo
B♭5
G♭5
E♭5
B5
A5
8va
loco

B♭5
G♭5
E♭5
B5
A5
loco

B♭5
G♭5
E♭5
B5
A5
8va
loco
let ring
hold bend
D.S. al Coda
B♭5
G♭5
E♭5
B5
E♭5
D5
He's
let ring
let ring

Coda
C
E♭
don't know what it means,

Additional Lyrics

2. We can have some more.
Nature is a whore.
Bruises on the fruit.
Tender age in bloom.

Smells Like Teen Spirit

Words and Music by Kurt Cobain, Krist Novoselic and Dave Grohl

Verse
N.C.(F5)
(B♭5)
(A♭5)
(D♭5)
(F5)
(B♭5)
1. Load up on guns and bring your friends. It's fun to lose
2. See additional lyrics
let ring
let ring

(A♭5)
(D♭5)
(F5)
(B♭5)
(A♭5)
(D♭5)
and to pre - tend. She's o - ver - bored and self - as - sured.
let ring

Pre-Chorus
(F5)
(B♭5)
(A♭5)
(D♭5)
(F5)
(B♭5)
Oh no, I know a dirt - y word. Hel - lo, hel - lo,
w/ slight dist.
let ring
let ring

(A♭5) (D♭5) (F5) (B♭5) (A♭5) (D♭5) (F5) (B♭5)
hel - lo, how low? Hel - lo, hel - lo, hel - lo, how low? Hel - lo, hel - lo,
let ring
(A♭5) (D♭5) (F5) (B♭5) (A♭5) (D♭5)
hel - lo, how low? Hel - lo, hel - lo, hel - lo. With the lights
let ring
w/ dist.
chorus off
Chorus
F5 B♭ A♭5 D♭
out it's less dan - g'rous. Here we are

F5
B♭
A♭5
D♭
now,
en - ter - tain
us.
I feel stu -
F5
B♭
A♭5
D♭
- pid
and con - ta - gious.
Here we are
F5
B♭
A♭5
D♭
now,
en - ter - tain
us.
A mul - la -

F5
B♭
A♭5
D♭
- to,
an al - bi - no,
a mos - qui -
To Coda
F5
B♭
A♭5
D♭
- to,
my li - bi - do.
Yeah,
Bridge
F5 E5 F5 G♭5 N.C.
F5 E5 F5 B♭5 A♭5
F5 E5 F5 G♭5 N.C.
yay,
yay.

1.
F5
E5
F5
B♭5
A5
A♭5
2.
F5
E5
F5
B♭5
A5
A♭5
Guitar Solo
F5
B♭
A♭5
D♭
w/ chorus & compression
1
1/2

Interlude
N.C.(F5)
(B♭5)
(A♭5)
(D♭5)
(F5)
(B♭5)
(A♭5)
(D♭5)
compressor off
Verse
N.C.(F5)
(B♭5)
(A♭5)
(D♭5)
3. And I for - get just why I taste.
(F5)
(B♭5)
(A♭5)
(D♭5)
(F5)
(B♭5)
Oo, yeah, I guess it makes you smile, I found it hard
D.S. al Coda
(A♭5)
(D♭5)
(F5)
(B♭5)
(A♭5)
(D♭5)
it's hard to find. Oh well, what ev - er, nev - er mind.

Additional Lyrics

2. I'm worse at what I do best,
And for this gift I feel blessed.
Our little group has always been
And always will until the end.

Heart Shaped Box

Words and Music by Kurt Cobain

Drop D tuning, down 1/2 step:
(low to high) D♭-A♭-D♭-G♭-B♭-E♭

A
F5
D5
A
F5
I've been locked in - side your heart - shaped box for weeks.
let ring
D7
A
F5
D5
I was drawn in - to your mag - net tar
let ring
A
F5
D7
A
F5
pit trap.
I wish I could eat
let ring
D5
A
F5
D7
your can - cer when you turn black.
let ring
f
w/ dist.
let ring

Chorus
A5
F5
D7
Hey! Wait! I've got a new com-plaint. For - ev - er in debt to your price - less ad - vice.
let ring
1/2
Hey! Wait! I've got a new com-plaint. For - ev - er in debt to your price - less ad - vice.
Hey! Wait! I've got a new com-plaint. For - ev - er in debt to your price - less ad - vice,

To Coda 1 ⊕

To Coda 2 ⊕

F5 D5

your ad - vice.

1/2

D.S. al Coda 1

F5 D7

let ring

⊕ **Coda 1**

F5 D7

let ring

Guitar Solo

A F D A F

w/ Rotovibe

1 1/2 1/2 1/2 1

Additional Lyrics

2. Meat-eating orchids forgive no one just yet.
Cut myself on angel's hair and baby's breath.
Broken hymen of your highness, I'm left black.
Throw down your umbilical noose so I can climb right back.

Lithium

Words and Music by Kurt Cobain

Tune down 1 step:
(low to high) D-G-C-F-A-D

B D E5 G#5 C#5 A5
they're in my head. I'm so ug - ly, that's o - kay
P.M.
let ring

C5 D5 B D E5 G#5
'cause so are you, broke our mirr'rs. Sun - day
P.M.
let ring

C#5 A5 C5 D5 B D
morn-ing is ev-'ry day for all I care, and I'm not scared.
P.M.
let ring

E5 G♯5 C♯5 A5 C5 D5
Light my can - dles in a daze 'cause I've found God.
P.M.
let ring
Pre-Chorus
B5 D5 E5 G♯5 C♯5 A5
Yeah. Yeah, yeah.
w/ dist.
C5 D5 B5 D5 E5 G♯5
Yeah.
C♯5 A5 C5 D5 B5 D5
Yeah, yeah. Yeah.

E5 G#5 C#5 A5 C5 D5
Yeah, yeah.
B5 D5
Yeah.
Chorus
A5 C5 A5 C5 N.C.
1. I like you,
2., 3., 4. I like it,
I'm not gon - na crack.
A5 C5 A5 C5 N.C. A5 C5
I miss you, I'm not gon - na crack. I love you,
1.
A5 C5 N.C. A5 C5 A5 C5 N.C.
I'm not gon - na crack. I'd kill you, I'm not gon - na crack.

2.

To Coda 𝄌

A5 C5 D5 B5 N.C.

I'm not gon - na crack.

Interlude

D.S. al Coda (with repeats)

Additional Lyrics

2., 4. I'm so lonely; that's okay,
I shaved my head,
And I'm not sad.
And just maybe I'm to blame for all I've heard,
But I'm not sure.
I'm so excited, I can't wait to meet you there,
But I don't care.
I'm so horny; that's okay, my will is good.

Rape Me

Words and Music by Kurt Cobain

Tune down 1/2 step:
(low to high) E♭-A♭-D♭-G♭-B♭-E♭

Phosgen

Intro

Moderately ♩ = 112

A C Esus4 G A C
Rape me. Rape me a - gain.
E5 G
Chorus
A C E5 G
I'm not the on - ly one. I,
f
w/ dist.
A C E5 G A C
I'm not the on - ly one. I, I'm not the on - ly one.
E5 G A C E5 G
To Coda
I, I'm not the on - ly one.

Verse
A5
C
E5
G
2. Hate me.
mf
w/ clean tone
Do it and do it a - gain.
Waste me.
D.S. al Coda
Rape me, my friend.
f
w/ dist.
Coda
Bridge
C#5
N.C.
My fav - 'rite in - side source.

C♯5
A5
N.C.
C♯5
I'll kiss your o - pen sores.
Ap - pre - ci - ate your con - cern.
A5
N.C.
C♯5
A5
N.C.
You're gon - na stink and burn.
F5
G5
E5
let ring
Verse
A
C
E5
G
A
C
3. Rape me.
Rape me, my friend.
mf
w/ clean tone

E5 G A C E5 G
Rape me.
A C E5 G
Chorus
A C
Rape me a - gain.
I'm not the on - ly one.
w/ dist.
E5 G
Play 3 times
A C E5 G
I,
I'm not the on - ly one.
Outro
A C E5 G
Play 4 times
Freely
A5
Rape me.
Rape me.
Rape me.

The Guitar Play-Along® Series will help you play your favorite songs quickly and easily. Just follow the tab, listen to the CD to hear how the guitar should sound, and then play along using the separate backing tracks. The melody and lyrics are also included in the book in case you want to sing, or to simply help you follow along.

The audio CD is playable on any CD player. For PC and MAC computer users, the CD is enhanced so you can adjust the recording to any tempo without changing pitch!

All Apologies

Come as You Are

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